WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   In a semiconductor manufacturing environment with a plurality of separate entities, a computer-implemented method for circulating a file between the entities comprising:

> choosing at least one input file;
>
> choosing an output file format;
>
> choosing a mode for circulation;
>
> extracting file information to the output file; and
>
> circulating the output file to at least one recipient entity.

2.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the at least one input file comprises a product manufacturing report from a semiconductor foundry.

3.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising converting the at least one input file to a different file format.

4.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the mode for circulation comprises e-mail.

5.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the mode for circulation comprises facsimile.

6.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the mode for circulation comprises a wireless device.

7.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the at least one input file comprises at least two input files.

8.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the mode for circulation comprises sending an e-mail to at least two different entities, the at least two different entities having different e-mail systems.

9.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the mode for circulation comprises sending an e-mail to at least one entity, and sending a facsimile to at least one other entity, the at least one other entity being at a different location than the at least one entity.

10.   A computer-implemented method for circulating a file associated with the manufacture or sale of semiconductor devices, the method comprising:

closing an application file responsive to a user request;

querying the user if the application file is to be circulated;

if the application file is to be circulated, checking and determining the application file type;

preparing the application file for circulation; and

circulating the output file to at least one recipient.

11.   The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein the application file comprises a product manufacturing report from a semiconductor foundry.

12.   The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein preparing the application file comprises converting the application file to a different file format.

13.   The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein a mode for circulating comprises e-mail.

14.   The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein a mode for circulating comprises facsimile.

15.   The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein a mode for circulating comprises a wireless device.

16.   The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein the application file comprises at least two separate application files.

17.   The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein circulating comprises sending an e-mail to at least two different users, the at least two different users having different e-mail systems.

18.   The computer-implemented method of claim 10, wherein circulating comprises sending an e-mail to at least one user, and sending a facsimile to at least one other user, the at least one other user at a different location than the at least one user.

19.   A system for circulating a file, the system comprising:

        a virtual fabrication system comprising a plurality of components located at at least two different locations, the components connected by a network;

        a memory system connected to the network configured to store files regarding the operation of the virtual fabrication system;

        a communication system connected to the network, and configured to circulate one or more of the files to a plurality of recipients.

20.   The computer-implemented method of claim 19, wherein at least one of the files comprises a product manufacturing report from a semiconductor foundry.

21.   The computer-implemented method of claim 19, wherein the communication system is adapted to convert the files to a different file format.

22.   The computer-implemented method of claim 19, wherein the communication system is adapted to send emails.

23.   The computer-implemented method of claim 19, wherein the communication system is adapted to send facsimiles.

24.   The computer-implemented method of claim 19, wherein the communication system is adapted to send the files to a wireless device.

25.   The computer-implemented method of claim 19, wherein the communication system is adapted to send emails and facsimiles.

26.   The computer-implemented method of claim 19, wherein the communication system is adapted to send emails, facsimiles, and files to a wireless device.